

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

REC'D 27 APR 2005

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To:

see form PCT/ISA/220

WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY (PCT Rule 43bis.1)

Applicant's or agent's file reference see form PCT/ISA/220		Date of mailing (day/month/year) see form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet)
International application No. PCT/IB2005/051104	International filing date (day/month/year) 04.04.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 13.04.2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC H04N13/04		
Applicant KONINKLIJKE PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V.		

1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:

- Box No. I Basis of the opinion
- Box No. II Priority
- Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention
- Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- Box No. VI Certain documents cited
- Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application
- Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application

2. FURTHER ACTION

If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will usually be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA"). However, this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.

If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of three months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

Name and mailing address of the ISA:  European Patent Office - P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL-2280 HV Rijswijk - Pays Bas Tel. +31 70 340 - 2040 Tx: 31 651 epo nl Fax: +31 70 340 - 3016	Authorized Officer Bequet, T Telephone No. +31 70 340-3339	
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**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IB2005/051104

Box No. I Basis of the opinion

1. With regard to the **language**, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 - This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language , which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material:
 - a sequence listing
 - table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material:
 - in written format
 - in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing:
 - contained in the international application as filed.
 - filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 - furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

Box No. II Priority

1. The validity of the priority claim has not been considered because the International Searching Authority does not have in its possession a copy of the earlier application whose priority has been claimed or, where required, a translation of that earlier application. This opinion has nevertheless been established on the assumption that the relevant date (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1) is the claimed priority date.
2. This opinion has been established as if no priority had been claimed due to the fact that the priority claim has been found invalid (Rules 43bis.1 and 64.1). Thus for the purposes of this opinion, the international filing date indicated above is considered to be the relevant date.
3. Additional observations, if necessary:

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

International application No.
PCT/IB2005/051104

**Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or
Industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement**

1. Statement

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 1-9
 No: Claims

Inventive step (IS) Yes: Claims 1-9
 No: Claims

Industrial applicability (IA) Yes: Claims 1-9
 No: Claims

2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING
AUTHORITY (SEPARATE SHEET)**

International application No.
PCT/IB2005/051104

Re Item V.

1) Reference is made to the following document:

D1: WO 03/071335

2) D1 which is considered as the closest prior art discloses an autostereoscopic display using a lenticular screen. The lenses are variable lenses in which the meniscus formed by a liquid is controlled. This meniscus is varied by applying a voltage to the side walls of the space which contains the liquid. The basic cell in D1 is exactly the same as the one defined in present claim 1.

D1 discloses further (col.4, lines 26-28) that the meniscus can be adjusted according to the position (distance) of the viewer.

The additional features of claim 1 are two individually controllable electrodes for each cell whereas in D1 a single one is provided. These features allow to obtain a tilted meniscus instead of a symmetrical one. Such a solution authorises the viewer to have more freedom of movement in front of the screen; in addition to the forward/backward movement disclosed in D1 a lateral one is also allowed.

The subject-matter of claim 1 is therefore new and involves an inventive step Art. 33 (2)(3) PCT.

The same comments are made for corresponding method claim 9.

Claims 2-8 are dependent on claim 1 and as such also meet the requirements of the PCT with respect to novelty and inventive step.

3) The application does not meet the requirements of Article 6 PCT, because claims 1 and 9 are not clear.

It is not clear if the two electrodes are used for modifying the shape of the meniscus. In addition the functional effect of tilting the meniscus is not defined in claim 1, it is

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International application No.

PCT/IB2005/051104

essential for authorising the lateral movement.

- 4) The claims are not properly divided in the two-part form relative to D1.